

## David Bordelon

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**From:** Thomas Schneidau <tschneidau@cityofslidell.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 21, 2020 2:59 PM  
**To:** David Bordelon  
**Subject:** RE: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion Request (No. 2020-708)  
**Attachments:** RE: Request for Ethics Opinion

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David,

Apologies for the short delay in response. New baby for my family last week and been trying to catch up on some matters that arose when I was out!

To answer your questions:

1. How many employees would be affected by this decision? Can you send me an organization chart showing the departments at issue?

Anticipated: 37 total (25 from public utilities and 12 from wastewater treatment). 33 will be offered employment by the contractor should they desire it (subject to the leased employee possibility as described in our request letter).

In our org. chart., the department of "public operations" is over five offices, which are separately staffed and supervised, namely:

- (1) property maintenance (city offices and event facilities);
- (2) public utilities (water production, wastewater collection, etc.);
- (3) public works (streets, drainage, etc.);
- (4) wastewater treatment (as the name indicates, wastewater treatment); and
- (5) airport operations (we have a city airport we manage).

The offices of public utilities and wastewater treatment are the affected offices.

The employee over the department of public operations stays on, as he manages all five offices listed above.

Our chief operator for wastewater treatment is contemplated to stay on with the City. He will be the City's public/private project coordinator as to wastewater treatment issues.

Our assistant superintendent over sewer (wastewater collection) is contemplated to stay on with the City. He will be the City's public/private project coordinator as to sewer issues.

And our superintendent over public utilities is contemplated to stay on with the City. He will be the City's public/private project coordinator as to water issues.

Further, we will have one administrative assistant stay on with the City to assist these three gentlemen.

These 4 persons are performing project managerial oversight/administration and will not be performing operations and maintenance duties. The three project coordinators will probably have some cross water/sewer/wastewater treatment coordination oversight authority to account for when one is on vacation, sick, etc.

2. Would any of the department heads be affected? See answer to #1.

3. Which employees would remain City employees for managerial oversight? See answer to #1.
4. Has a private entity been selected yet? Yes. The City made a decision after a request for qualifications process; the city council approved the entity, subject to a satisfactory negotiation by the mayor on a contract. Part of our due diligence process on the contract negotiation is to make sure this engagement would not present an ethics issue.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Happy to speak directly if that would be useful to you.

Also, for reference, I am attaching an email I sent to Tracy back on 10/7 with a clarifying statement.

Best regards,

Thomas

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**From:** Thomas Schneidau  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2020 4:03 PM  
**To:** David Bordelon <[David.Bordelon@la.gov](mailto:David.Bordelon@la.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion Request (No. 2020-708)

David, thank you for your message. I will have all this information for you tomorrow.

Best regards,  
Thomas

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**From:** David Bordelon <[David.Bordelon@la.gov](mailto:David.Bordelon@la.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2020 11:06 AM  
**To:** Thomas Schneidau <[tschneidau@cityofslidell.org](mailto:tschneidau@cityofslidell.org)>  
**Subject:** La. Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion Request (No. 2020-708)

Mr. Schneidau,

I have been assigned the advisory opinion request regarding the City of Slidell's privatization of the water system. I have a few questions to clarify the request:

1. How many employees would be affected by this decision? Can you send me an organization chart showing the departments at issue?
2. Would any of the department heads be affected?
3. Which employees would remain City employees for managerial oversight?
4. Has a private entity been selected yet?

I'm hoping I can get you a draft this week to review. Also, I would recommend having someone available at the meeting on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> to answer any questions the Board may have since this is a unique situation.

**David M. Bordelon**

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